FFWPU UK: Testimony From The 1000th Vigil Prayer In Chung Pyung

Michael Balcomb March 28, 2024



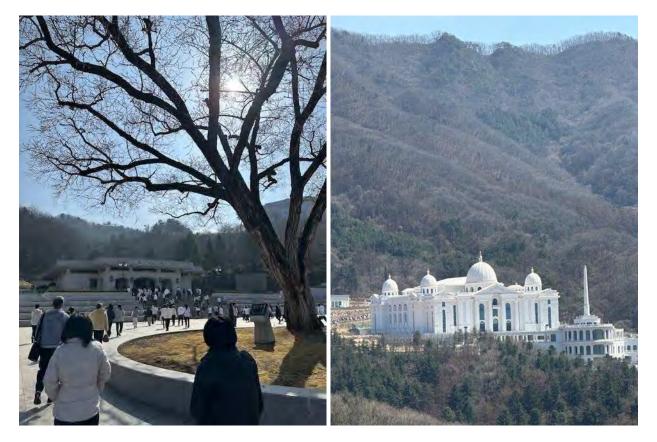
Sophia N. was in Chung Pyung for this special occasion, read her testimony from the experience here...

'I was incredibly fortunate in this past week to take part in the 1000th Vigil Prayer in Chung Pyung. I was planning to attend a weekend workshop and was very excited to find out the dates I had planned to attend lined up with this special occasion. The schedule didn't officially begin until 9pm but even from the early afternoon, people were arriving to mark out their spaces in the main Vigil Prayer Hall. I marked out my space around 5:30pm, where the only space left was already nearer the back of the hall.



By 7:30pm we were already seated in the hall so that we could try to squeeze as many people in as possible. Despite how packed it was it was a great atmosphere with families and friends sat together, often with coffees to help make it through the evening schedule. By the time Vigil Prayer started there was over 6600 people in Chung Pyung, in 3 different rooms, with people spilling out into the corridors surrounding the main hall. I felt very grateful that I got to be in the main prayer hall for this special occasion seeing the dedication of so many members around me. It was moving to see so many people

come together, from across the globe to join to prayer, with a reported 60,000 plus taking part online. These numbers really inspired me for our movement.



It was near 2am by the time Vigil Prayer ended, with a positive energy flowing between everyone, despite the time. People were reuniting with friends all over Chung Pyung as people started to leave in one of the 60 buses and over 200 cars that had arrived just for the vigil prayer, with many remaining for the weekend workshop. Chung Pyung is really a place that brings people together-prior to going to Korea I didn't know of anyone who would be in Chung Pyung but by the end of my few days there I had reunited with many people such as the missionaries our EMP team spent some time with in Czech Republic last year; A Japanese missionary that we had spent some time with in Lebanon last spring and I even got to reunite with one of my closest childhood friends from Nepal, whom I hadn't seen for 13 years and have been trying to see for a long time. She saw me at the Tree of Blessing, what a miracle! Getting to visit here is truly a very special experience.



In my spare time I was also lucky to get to go on walks around Chung Pyung, especially during the early morning when it was more quiet. On the Saturday after vigil prayer the cold spring weather opened up to a warm, sunny day making the trip up to the Tree of Blessing feel like beautiful summer. Even though, I was only able to visit for a short while, I still was really able to feel God's love and admire how fortunate I am to get to experience a place like Chung Pyung.'